

## Message Text

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61  
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 PC-10 DRC-01 /126 W  
----- 122683

R 191625Z APR 74  
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2298  
INFO USFINCSO  
AMCONSUL CALI  
AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 3299

USCINCSO FOR J-2  
E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, CO  
SUBJECT: POLICE INVOLVEMENT IN MURDER CASE

1. U.S. REPORTERS IN BOGOTA TO COVER THE ELECTIONS HAVE SHOWN INTEREST IN A CASE IN WHICH AGENTS OF THE INVESTIGATIVE POLICE (F-2) ARE ACCUSED OF HAVING MURDERED TWO PERSONS AND THROWN THEIR BODIES INTO A RIVER CANYON. STORIES ABOUT THE CASE MAY APPEAR IN THE U.S. PRESS AND WE BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE TO PROVIDE HERE THE FACTS AS WE KNOW THEM TO COUNTER CHARGES THAT THE COLOMBIAN POLICE HAVE ESTABLISHED A DEATH SQUAD.

2. LT. COL. CARLOS GUZMAN, CHIEF OF F-2, HAS AUTHORITY OVER AGENTS EMPLOYED AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. A MAJOR PROBLEM, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN THAT LOCAL POLICE COMMANDERS HAVE HAD THE AUTHORITY TO RECRUIT AGENTS, LABEL THEM AS F-2 AND PUT THEM TO WORK. GUZMAN HAS ABSOLUTELY NO CONTROL OVER THESE AGENTS.

3. IN THE CASE IN QUESTION, LOCAL F-2 AGENTS FROM GIRADOT ARE ACCUSED OF HAVING MURDERED TWO  
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YOUNG MEN FROM THE TOWN AND OF TOSSING THEIR

BODIES OVER THE TEQUENDAMA FALLS. AT LEAST SIX F-2 AGENTS FROM GIRADTO ARE SAID TO BE INVOLVED IN THE CASE.

4. THE CASE HAS RECEIVED SENSATIONAL TREATMENT IN THE BOGOTA PRESS. GUZMAN HAS COMPLAINED TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE ABOUT HIS LACK OF CONTROL AND THE MINISTER HAS PROMISED TO GIVE GUZMAN IN WRITING AUTHORITY OVER ALL F-2 AGENTS IN THE COUNTRY.

5. TWO IMPORTANT POINTS WE WISH TO MAKE ARE THAT:  
1) COLOMBIAN OFFICIALS HAVE MOVED RAPIDLY TO CORRECT THE DEFICIENCY IN THE F-2 ORGANIZATION AND 2) THERE IS NO DEATH SQUAD IN COLOMBIA.

VAKY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MURDER, POLICE FORCES  
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**Draft Date:** 19 APR 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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